

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

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R 231100Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3553

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

CINCEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

CINCUSNAVEUR

UNCLAS ALGIERS 3653

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO

SUBJECT: PRESS "EXPOSE" ON US BASES IN MOROCCO

1. SUMMARY: OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER EL MOUDJAHID UNBURDENS ITSELF OF LENGTHY "EXPOSE" DEC. 20 ON US BASES IN MOROCCO. THURST OF ANALYSIS IS TO DEMONSTRATE HOW HASSAN'S ALLOWING US USE OF SUCH BASES LINKS MOROCCO TO NATO AND CREATES PERMANENT MENACE FOR MOROCCAN PEOPLE AND ARAB WORLD. END SUMMARY.

2. DEC. 20 EDITION OF FLN FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY EL MOUDJAHID CARRIED FULL PAGE ARTICLE ON US BASES IN MOROCCO. ENTIRE PAGE DEVOTED TO UNSOURCED "CONFIDENTIAL REPORT" ON SUBJECT: PAGE FEATURES WELL KNOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF KING HASSAN HAVING HIS GOLF SHOES CHANGED BY MINIONS BEFORE GROUP OF MOROCCAN GOLFERS. PHOTOS OF US UNCLASSIFIED

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AIRCRAFT AND OF FRONT PAGE OF FEG. 1, 1971, EDITION OF

ISTIQLAL'S L'OPINION DENOUNCING US BASES ALSO PRINTED.

3. KENITRA BASE, ACCORDING TO "REPORT," HOUSES FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

A. "TENS OF AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING F-86, F-104, F-111, F-101, NORTHROP, AND PHANTOM-105."

B. SPARE PARTS STORAGE FACILITIES AND UNDERGROUND DEPOTS FOR WEAPONS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR ARMS.

C. SEVERAL TYPES OF MISSILES, INCLUDING RADAR GUIDED ANTI-AIRCRAFT VARIETY.

D. "HUNDREDS OF FLOATING TANKS" AND QUARTERS FOR 30,000 TROOPS.

E. "OFF-LIMITS ZONE" IN WHICH SPECIAL UNITS FOR RAPID INTERVENTION THROUGHOUT WORLD ARE TRAINED.

4. SIDI YAYHA AND BOUKNADEL BASES SAID TO BE OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE AND TO INVOLVE PRIMARILY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

5. "REPORT" LISTS PAST AND PRESENT USES OF BASES AS FOLLOWS:

A. DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN ALL EVENTS IN MIDDLE EAST.

B. SUPPLYING ARMS DURING 1960 CONGO CRISIS.

C. REPAIR CENTER FOR PHANTOMS WHICH WERE BROUGHT FROM VIETNAM FOLLOWING COMMUNIST TAKEOVER AND SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO ISRAEL.

D. SINCE 1970, BASE FOR US PARATROOP UNITS. AFTER 1970 "PLOT" AGAINST PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN, FOUR TRANSPORT PLANES LANDED IN KENITRA BRINGING ELEMENTS OF US 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION.

E. CENTER FOR DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND CIA INTELLIGENCE

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ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING INSTALLATION OF LISTENING DEVICES AT RABAT HILTON HOTEL AT TIME OF 1974 ARAB SUMMIT.

6. FUTURE US PLANS FOR MOROCCO, ACCORDING TO "REPORT," ARE:

A. CONSTRUCTION OF MARINE BASE IN REGION OF EL HOUSSEIN." (THIS MAY REFER TO PROPOSED MOROCCAN MARINE BASE AT EL HOCIEMA.)

B. OBTAINING ADDITIONAL "POINTS OF SUPPORT" IN MOROCCO FOR "5TH" AND 6TH FLEETS. FIFTH FLEET (SIC) COMMANDER ADMIRAL TORNELL SAID TO HAVE DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION WITH MOROCCAN COURT MINISTER HAFIDH ALAOUI DURING FORMER'S VISIT TO MOROCCO NOV. 1-14, 1974. (THIS APPARENT REFERENCE VISIT OF 6TH FLEET COMMANDER ADMIRAL TURNER TO MOROCCO IN NOVEMBER, 1974.)

7. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT BASES CONSTITUTE "PERMANENT MENACE FOR MOROCCAN PEOPLE AND THE ARAB NATION IN GENERAL." "UNDER AMERICAN CONSTITUTION", PIECE ASSERTS, PENTAGON MAY SEND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES OF 100,000-500,000 MEN TO ANY COUNTRY IN WHICH AMERICAN MILITARY THREATENED; THIS PROVISION WILL THUS PERMIT KING HASSAN TO USE AMERICAN "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE" IN ACHIEVING HIS OBJECTIVES IN SAHARA. ARTICLE REFERS TO PARIS WEEKLY AFRIQUE-ASIE'S "REVELATION" THAT SPECIAL GENERAL STAFF MADE UP OF STRATEGISTS AND MILITARY MEN FROM US BASES IN MOROCCO HAS BEEN PUT AT HASSAN'S DISPOSITION TO ASSIST IN SAHARA INVASION.

8. COMMENT: THIS IS HEAVIEST, AND BY FAR MOST MENDACIOUS, BIT OF ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA TO APPEAR IN PRESS IN RECENT WEEKS. PAST TWO WEEKS HAVE SEEN INCREASE IN LINKAGE OF US TO KING HASSAN'S PARIS-MADRID-RABAT AXIS. LATEST POLISARIO POSTERS SHOW AMERICAN FLAG WITH THAT OF MOROCCO IN SAHARA, AND FREQUENCY OF DIRECT REFERENCES TO US IN DESCRIPTIONS OF HASSAN'S EVIL SCHEMES HAVE GROWN. HOWEVER, FOREGOING IS WILDEST EYED BIT OF JOURNALISM TO APPEAR IN EL MOUDJAHID IN SOME TIME. PARKER
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